

8 February 1952

Vice Admiral Merlin O'Neill
Commandant, United States Coast Guard
Coast Guard Headquarters
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Admiral O'Neill:

General Smith has requested me to reply to your letter dated January 28, 1952, relating to National Intelligence Estimate No. 11, "Soviet Capabilities for Clandestine Attack Against the United States with Emphasis on Mass Destruction and the Vulnerability of the United States to such Attack", and related intelligence.

The Director instructed me to assure you that CIA will cooperate fully in affording intelligence support to the Coast Guard, but must do so consistently with the general policy of limiting the dissemination of National Intelligence Estimates containing highly sensitive material.

Accordingly, the following arrangements for intelligence support of the Coast Guard are proposed:

1. A copy of NIE 11 is being furnished for use at the Coast Guard Headquarters.
2. CIA will be glad to cooperate with your office in the preparation of a memorandum extracting from NIE 11 those facts for which the Coast Guard District Commanders in the Continental United States have a need to know, but omitting certain highly sensitive portions of such estimate. If you desire that this be done, your office may make arrangements directly with Mr. Sherman Kent, Assistant Director of the National Estimates, who can be reached on Code 143, Extension 552.
3. Arrangements are being made to disseminate to the Coast Guard the additional intelligence requested in

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your letter, to the extent that the same is available. In addition, arrangements are being made for CIA dissemination to Coast Guard Headquarters of any additional intelligence of like character that may become available in the future. Such arrangements may be made directly by your office with Mr. Andrews, Assistant Director of the Office of Collection and Dissemination, who can be reached on Code 143, Extension 2244. It will be appreciated if your office could furnish me with a memorandum specifying the matters of particular Coast Guard interest, so that I can insure that the appropriate CIA offices are fully advised as to such interest.

It is trusted that the arrangements outlined above will satisfy your requirements for intelligence support.

Very truly yours,

SIGNED

Loftus M. Decker
Deputy Director/Intelligence

LEB:jd

Dist.:

Orig. & 1 - addressee
2 - DCI ✓
1 - AD/NE
1 - AD/RR
1 - AD/IC
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UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

ADDRESS REPLY TO:
COMMANDANT
U. S. COAST GUARD
HEADQUARTERS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



FILE JAN 28 1952

Lieutenant General Walter B. Smith, U.S.A.
Director, Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

My dear General Smith,

It is requested that twelve (12) copies of the National Intelligence Estimate-31 Soviet Capabilities for Clandestine Attack Against the U.S., With Weapons of Mass Destruction and the Vulnerability of the U.S., to such Attack be made available to the Commandant, Coast Guard. It is proposed to deliver a copy to each of the ten Coast Guard District Commanders in continental United States and to utilize two copies at Coast Guard Headquarters.

In National Intelligence Estimate-31, reference is made to approximately 140 Western ships under charter to Soviet and satellite nations. Any additional specific information concerning these ships is also requested and would be deeply appreciated.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Merlin O'Neill".
MERLIN O'NEILL
Vice Adm. U.S. Coast Guard
Commandant

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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REMARKS: Please advise whether there are any security objections to disseminating the info requested in # 2. I have spoken to you re this.